

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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AMEMBASSY PARIS
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PARIS FOR UNESCO

ROME FOR FAO

FOR MAYNES FROM SORENSON

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: AORG UN
SUBJ: GENEVA GROUP EXPERTS MEETING

REF: GENEVA 4691

1. THE OUTCOME OF THE JULY 718 GENEVA GROUP MEETING OF EXPERTS PROBABLY WILL TURN ON THE QUALITY OF U.S. PREPARATIONS. INDEED, IT MAY DEPEND UPON WHETHER THE U.S. PARTICIPANTS ARE ABLE TO ARRIVE AT THE MEETING WITH AN ACCEPTABLE AND WELL-PREPARED "OUTCOME" DOCUMENT IN HAND.
2. THE OUTCOME OF THE JULY MEETING, AS WE SEE IT, SHOULD BE AN AGREED DOCUMENT EMBODYING A FORMAT FOR CONDUCTING IN GENEVA GROUP CAPITALS COORDINATED ANALYSES OF THE PROGRAM BUDGETS OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES. THIS WOULD BE INTENDED
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TO INSPIRE, IN THE FIRST INSTANCE, COMMON ANALYTICAL APPROACHES WITHIN GENEVA GROUP GOVERNMENTS, AND TO PERMIT THEREAFTER FACTUALLY STRUCTURED EXCHANGES BETWEEN GENEVA GROUP MEMBERS AND WITH THE RESPECTIVE SECRETARIATS.

3. THE PREFERRED SCENARIO WOULD BE THAT OF (A) ADOPTION OF SUCH A DOCUMENT BY EXPERTS AT THE JULY 7-8 MEETING

FOR RECOMMENDATION TO GOVERNMENTS AND (B) PRESENTATION OF IT TO THE CONSULTATIVE LEVEL MEETING IN THE AUTUMN FOR FINAL APPROVAL.

4. EVALUATION OF THE ELEMENTS WHICH SHOULD BE INTRODUCED INTO SUCH A DOCUMENT SURPASS, OF COURSE, THE QUALIFICATION OF GENEVA GROUP REPRESENTATIVES IN GENEVA. WE FEEL COLLECTIVELY THAT WE HAVE STIMULATED THIS EXERCISE AS FAR AS OUR QUALITATIVE COMPETENCY PERMITS. EXPERTISE IN CAPITALS MUST TAKE OVER AT THIS STAGE, BUT THIS MISSION IS DOUBTFUL THAT THIS WILL MATERIALIZE EXCEPT UNDER U.S. LEADERSHIP.

3. THE WASHINGTON COMMUNITY HAS AS A BASIS FOR THIS TASK THE CANADIAN PAPER CIRCULATED AT THE MARCH MEETING AT THE CONSULTATIVE LEVEL AND THE ANCILLIARY PAPERS PRODUCED IN LIGHT OF IT. IN AN EFFORT TO PROMOTE FURTHER THE TECHNICAL THINKING IN WASHINGTON ON THIS PROBLEM, I HAVE SUBMITTED UNDER COVER OF A LETTER TO YOU TODAY A PAPER ON THE APPROACH TO IT WHICH HAS GROWN OUT OF DISCUSSIONS WE HAVE HAD WITHIN THE MISSION. IT IS NOT A FINISHED PRODUCT, BUT NOTES INTENDED TO STIMULATE WASHINGTON PREPARATIONS TOWARD THE ADOPTION OF AN AGREED DOCUMENT FOR ADOPTION AT THE CONSULTATIVE LEVEL IN NEW YORK IN THE AUTUMN.

4. TO SHARPEN THIS SORT OF ANALYTICAL TOOL, I WOULD SEE USEFULNESS IN HAVING THE WASHINGTON PARTICIPANTS IN THE JULY MEETING ARRIVE IN ADVANCE OF IT TO ALLOW TIME FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF WHO AND ILO, AND WOULD SEE GREAT UTILITY IN FOLLOW-ON CONSULTATIONS WITH COUNTERPART OFFICIALS OF FAO AND UNESCO.

5. IN SUM, IF WE ARE TO CARRY THIS EXERCISE FORWARD SUCCESSFULLY, OUR REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD ARRIVE AT THE JULY 7-8 EXPERTS' MEETING WITH THE "OUTCOME" PROPOSED, SHOULD ALLOW TIME FOR PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS, SHOULD LOOK TOWARD COMPARABLE CONSULTATIONS IN PARIS (UNESCO) AND ROME(FAO), AND SHOULD POINT TOWARD A DEFINITIVE STEP BY THE GENEVA GROUP AT THE CONSULTATIVE LEVEL IN NEW YORK IN THE AUTUMN. AT THAT MEETING, ALSO, WE WILL WISH TO BE IN A POSITION TO EXPLAIN, IN A STIMULATIVE WAY, STEPS BEING TAKEN IN WASHINGTON TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF NATIONAL COORDINATION ON OUR PARTICIPATION IN THESE ORGANIZATIONS, AND NATIONAL EXPERIENCE IN THE PROGRAM BUDGET ANALYSIS OF THEIR ACTIVITIES.SORENSEN

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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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